

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

EB-07 COME-00 /048 W
----- 043935

R 251910Z FEB 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0316
SECDEF WASHDC
INFL ALL NATO CAPITALS 5053
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1044

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, NATO
SUBJECT: INFRASTRUCTURE ASPECTS OF GREEK WITHDRAWAL

REF: USNATO 0523 JANUARY 31, 1975

1. AT RESTRICTED DPC MEETING FEBRUARY 25 (AMBASSADORS ONLY),
ERALP ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS RECALLED THAT AT THE REGULAR DPC
MEETING ON JANUARY 30 HE HAD PRESENTED THE VIEWS OF HIS GOVERN-
MENT WITH RESPECT TO THE CONTINUING EXPENDITURE OF INFRASTRUCTURE
FUNDS ON ALLIED FACILITIES IN GREECE. ON THAT OCCASION MENZIES
(CANADA) HAD HELPFULLY PROPOSED THAT ONE MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE
THESE PROJECTS PROVIDED ATHENS WOULD FURNISH A GUARANTEE THAT THE
ALLIES WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE ACCESS TO THEM. HE SAID THAT
THIS PROPOSAL HAD BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AT VERY SENIOR
LEVELS IN ANKARA AND HAD BEEN FOUND UNSATISFACTORY. GREECE,
IT APPEARED TO TURKEY, WAS DETERMINED TO CARVE OUT FOR ITSELF
A PRIVILEGED POSITION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE AFTER HAVING WITH-
DRAWN ITS FORCES FROM THE INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE WHICH
MAKES COLLECTIVE DEFENSE AND DETERRENCE POSSIBLE. IN THE
CIRCUMSTANCES, TURKEY ADHERED STRICTLY TO THE PROPOSALS
WHICH HE HAD INTRODUCED AT THE JANUARY 30 DPC (USNATO 0523)
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AND HE WOULD THEREFORE SEEK A FURTHER DETAILED DISCUSSION OF
THIS MATTER AGAIN AT AN EARLY DATE AT A FORMAL DPC MEETING.

2. ACTING SYG PANSA REMINDED ERALP THAT ALL THE DPC ALLIES

HAD AGREED TO A POLICY OF NOT CREATING ADDITIONAL DIFFICULTIES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE AT THIS TIME IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE GREEKS TO RETURN ONCE MORE TO THE NATO FOLD. IT HAS BEEN FURTHER AGREED THAT THE DPC ALLIES WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE THIS POLICY UNTIL GREECE AND NATO HAD ENTERED INTO NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD DEFINE GREECE'S FUTURE RELATIONSHIP TO THE ALLIANCE. PECK (UK), KRAPF (FRG), MCAULIFFE (US) HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS), BAL (BELGIUM), BUSCH (NORWAY), AND MENZIES (CANADA) EACH SPOKE BRIEFLY DECLARING THEIR GOVERNMENTS FIRM SUPPORT FOR THE POSITION DESCRIBED BY PANSA.

3. ERALP REPLIED THAT THERE IS GROWING ANXIETY IN ANKARA BECAUSE GREECE HAS DELAYED OPENING NEGOTIATIONS WITH NATO TO DEFINE ITS FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ALLIANCE. THIS DELAY COUPLED WITH THE DENIAL OF AEGEAN SEA AND AIR SPACE TO THE ALLIES, THUS EXPOSING TURKEY TO ATTACK FROM THE NORTH, MEANS THAT THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF HIS COUNTRY IS BEING DETERMINED BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IN ATHENS. THIS, HE SAID, WAS A TOTALLY UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY SINCE THE GREEKS MIGHT FIND IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE TO PROCRASTINATE ENDLESSLY.

4. IN CLOSING THE MEETING, PANSA OBSERVED THAT THE DPC ALLIES HAD TAKEN NOTE OF THE TURKISH POSITION AND THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY HAD AGAIN AT THIS RESTRICTED MEETING REAFFIRMED THEIR AGREEMENT TO DEALING WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE IN A CAUTIOUS AND PRUDENT MANNER WHICH WOULD ENABLE ATHENS TO BRING ITS MILITARY FORCES BACK INTO THE ALLIANCE MILITARY STRUCTURE JUST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
MCAULIFFE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO01044
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750286/abbrzikt.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USNATO 0523 JANUARY 31, 1975
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 APR 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <28 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INFRASTRUCTURE ASPECTS OF GREEK WITHDRAWAL
TAGS: MARR, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF
INFL ALL NATO CAPITALS
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH
Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006